

BA-2182

Maryland Training School for Boys
(Maryland School for Boys, Charles H. Hickey, Jr. School)
2400 Cub Hill Road, Parkville, MD 21234
Public

The Charles H. Hickey, Jr., School began in 1850 as the House of Refuge on Frederick Avenue in Baltimore City (Chapter 374, Acts of 1849). It was an early effort to separate children from adult criminals in jails. Renamed the Maryland School for Boys, it moved in 1910 to its present site near Loch Raven in northern Baltimore County. In 1918, it became the Maryland Training School for Boys (Chapter 300, Acts of 1918). Adopted in 1985, the School's present name honors a former Baltimore County sheriff (Chapter 245, Acts of 1985).

Formerly, the Hickey School served up to 300 delinquent boys and young men, ages 15 to 17, from across Maryland either as a detention center or as a committed facility (Code 1957, Art. 83C, sec. 2-117). From September 1991 to April 2004, the School was run by private firms under contract with the Department. In April 2004, the Department resumed operation of the School. In November 2005, the 130-bed committed residential component was closed. The Hickey School, however, continues to operate as a regional detention center for youth awaiting trial or placement in a treatment program.



A HISTORY OF THE CHARLES H. HICKEY, JR. SCHOOL

1850: The Charles H. Hickey, Jr. School (Hickey) began as the House of Refuge on Frederick Avenue in Baltimore City. It was an early effort to separate children from adult criminals in jails.

1910: Renamed the Maryland School for Boys, the school moved to its present site near Loch Raven in northern Baltimore County.

1918: Became the Maryland Training School for Boys.

1985: The School was named in honor of Charles H. Hickey, Jr., a former Baltimore County sheriff. For youth awaiting trial, Hickey cared for and treated some 300 delinquent boys and young men, ages 15-17, serving as a detention center for youth awaiting trial and as a training school for youth committed by the court.

1991-2004: Hickey was run by private firms under contract with the State of Maryland until April 2004, when the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) converted it from private to public management. Improvements were made with respect to "quality of life" factors (i.e., food, clothing, and personal items) and the population was quickly downsized by approximately 25%, fluctuating between 165 and 185 youth.

On July 1, 2004, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., announced the Maryland State Department of Education's new role in directing the educational program at Hickey, reflecting the first phase of the Administration's plan to expand educational services at all DJS facilities.

2005: On June 30, 2005, Governor Ehrlich ordered Hickey to close and be replaced with a new regional detention center as part of a broad plan to reform DJS. The Ehrlich Administration also entered into an agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice to implement key reforms to strengthen health and education services for youth in the State's juvenile facilities. Those reforms include improved special education, mental health and medical services, and enhanced safety and suicide prevention measures and are consistent with other reform activities already implemented by DJS.

Following the Governor's order to close Hickey in two phases, the 130-bed committed residential programs closed November 28, 2005. Youth formerly in the programs were served by smaller, private residential programs or through services provided in their homes and communities. Parents were involved in all phases of youth transition/placement and arrangements were made for twice monthly out-of-state parental visits.

Staff was reassigned to existing vacancies within Hickey and/or transferred to vacant positions at DJS. No jobs were lost.

Phase two called for the replacement of the existing 72-bed detention center with a new, state-of-the-art regional detention. Details of this new facility will be determined by DJS' Facilities Master Plan, which will be presented to the General Assembly in 2006.

The current detention center will remain operational until the new detention facility is created to meet the needs of the region.

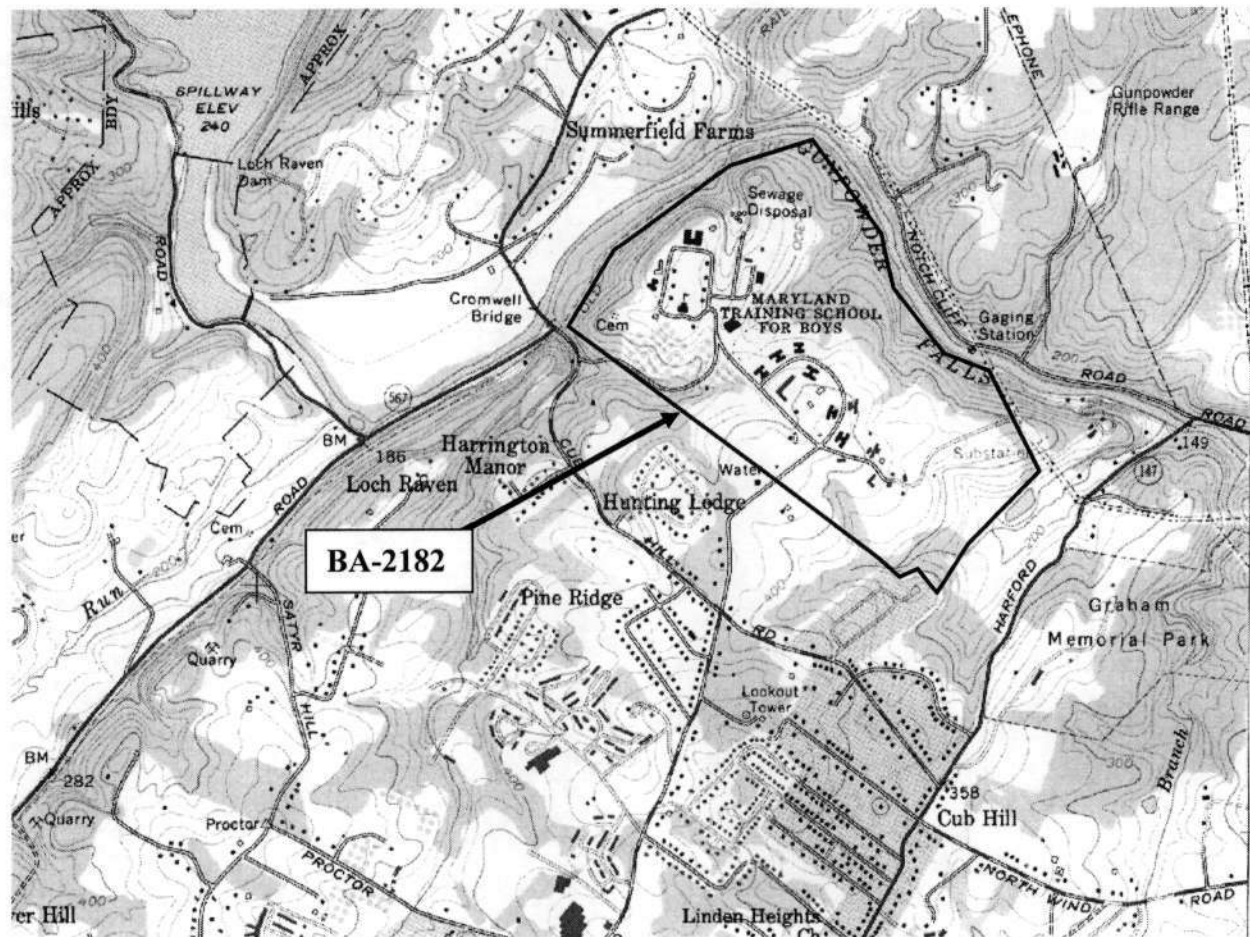
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2400 Cub Hill Road, Parkville, MD 21234

Towson quadrangle



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Maryland Training School for Boys
Old Harford Road



BA 2182

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